

Glasy near Limerick. Aug. 10. 57.

Dear Niggi. We are passing Sunday at this pleasant place on the banks of the Shannon; the river <sup>flows</sup> before the house, fine trees about, & an old ruined castle within half an hour's walk. It is the home of Dr. Harvey's eldest brother, Mr. Reuben Harvey, & we are resting here on our way to Killybegs. I am so sorry Aunt Emma & Mary could not come with us - But Aunt Emma has not been quite well, & thought it safer to ~~stay~~ in Dublin until tomorrow, & then join us at Killybegs tomorrow Ed. - So not one of us possibly behind-hand for there you are all left in the ~~Edwards~~ of Newlead Abbey - Well, Byron's had used them. One was called Henry the 11<sup>th</sup> room, & another Edward the 11<sup>th</sup>, as they were chambers used by those princes when staying here - Another room had a bed with hangings embroidered since 200 years ago in a French convent; & the coverlid was embroidered by Mary Queen of Scots - There were two portraits, one of Bloody Mary, a sensible interesting face; & the other of Mary Queen of Scots when 10 - Then we were shown into the drawing room, the door of which the monks, but which had fallen into such ruin that Lord Byron when a boy used to play cricket here. It is restored in most admirable taste, & makes one of the finest rooms I ever saw in a private dwelling house - There was here a fine original portrait of Lord Byron, & full length of some of the late Kings - And in a beautiful cabinet of tortoise shell inlaid with silver at one end of the room, formerly a relic in some church in France, is carefully preserved the skull mounted in silver, so famous from the lance of Lord Byron's success upon it - These windows looked out charmingly into the grounds, & we saw an oak tree, a good sized tree already, which Lord Byron had planted. Then we went into the monks' refectory, now restored, <sup>& made</sup> in the dining <sup>room</sup> on the same admirable taste; Lord Byron used it as a ~~dining~~ <sup>dining</sup> room - From it opened his dining-room, left as he used it; it is directly under his chamber & they were formerly the ~~latter~~ private dining-room & chamber - We have forgotten the chamber upstairs in a dark corner near <sup>in Byron's time</sup> the judge's chamber & which they called 'the haunted room' - This completed our survey of the house, & we left it quite delighted with its beauty, & with Col. Wildman's admirable taste, & with his touching affection for Lord Byron's memory, which seemed to make him so cherish every remnant of his friend - The house-keeper too seemed so sensible & pleasant, & to have such pride in her master's house. And with such a taste, & good



saw it slaying as he came from the kitchen garden - From the green plateau, in the midst of which was the sheet of water with the fountain, we descended by steps into the Station <sup>garden</sup> laid out as a sort of terrace surrounded by stone balustrades, & the flowers raised on masses of one colour in flat beds surrounded by stone walls & raised above the grass-plate - This garden, which, is quite extensive & very beautiful, lies in front of the main front of the house - Just in the middle is a small circular basin of water surrounded by an oak hedge, but so low & the outer edge left somewhat straggling that it looked like a beautiful oak-meat laid upon the grass - This finished our circuit of the gardens, & being let out by one great gate we must enter the other to see the house - There were some queer little dogs inside we had been feeding with biscuits, two St. George's, which are ugly little woolly things whose hair bunches the ground & conceals their short legs, & two little wolfish creatures, much prettier I thought - A footman in livery as in times of old, also ushered us along the carriage walk - A cry of "Hépreu" from "Aunt Anna," "do call him away!" made us turn our heads, & there stood Aunt Anna looking utterly wretched, & one of these little creatures on his hind legs in front of her, saying! The Duke's Carriage was waiting for him in front of the house to take him to the R.R. for an especial train to ~~Delto~~ to the dinner - The footman left us in the great hall <sup>sumptuous</sup> & ~~the~~ a deputy house-keeper & shew us about, who talked of the Emperor, &c. - The suite of state rooms with large windows of only two panes of glass, looked out most superbly on the green plateau & fountain, the distant park making a beautiful background - There were some fine things here - Superb Malacca china vases, gifts of the Emperor of Russia, portraits, miniatures, exquisite wood-carvings of gibbons, bulls, &c. &c. a canopy worked by Hess of Wardenike who built one of the houses at Chatsworth - This <sup>building</sup> ~~was~~ quite modern - In other rooms we saw fine pictures, Landseer's original of ~~the~~ Bolton Abbey, &c. &c. & finished the circuit of the house in the Sculpture gallery - There are Thorwaldsen's night & morning - his Eve, most beautiful things, & some of Canova's &c. &c. - I tried to pass more time there, but we were getting very tired, Aunt Anna had not sat down at all - Mary & I had walked once or twice in the grass &c. I Mary sat down while we were in the Conservatory, so we said good bye <sup>to</sup> ~~her~~ sincerely & took our way with some high appreciation of what it may be to be Duchess across the park to the little village where we were to pass the night -

I finish my letter at Killarney Aug. 28th - And really I make great exertions, getting up early in the morning to write, & sitting up in the evening when I am so sleepy, I can scarcely keep my eyes open. Though I think you will scarcely believe me I am so behindhand -

Many thanks for Sue & Patrick's & dear little Charlie's epistles received today, I am glad to hear Aunt Minnie is so well - We are enjoying ourselves most heartily, though poor Aunt Anne has got so overdone that she has been obliged to pretty much keep her bed ever since we got here, to her & our great disappointment, & so she cannot write - This is perhaps my last epistle as we sail a week from Saturday with most affectionate love to all, I am ever ever lovingly yours -